



Newsletter Contents

- ACUC Member Spotlight
- Revised ACUC Guidelines
- Semiannual Animal Facility Inspections
- Animal Study Proposal Deadlines
- The Care and Use of Animals in Laboratory Research Training
- ACUC Refresher Training Course
- Rodent Euthanasia
- Human Tumor Cell Line Injections

ACUC Member Spotlight



Reverend David J. Betzner

Pastor Betzner received his Masters of Divinity from the Concordia Theological Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri in 1969. He has served for 30 years as the sole pastor of Peace in Christ Lutheran Church, Walkersville. He serves as a member of the Frederick Memorial Hospital Crisis Intervention Team; a Bridgebuilder Consultant for parish

conflict resolution; a Trainer for a program called Healthy Congregations for the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod; Chaplain for the Frederick City Police Department and a regular guest clergy on Frederick Cable Television, "Faith in the Community." He has a special interest and training in grief counseling.

Pastor Betzner and his wife of 39 years, Sally, reside in Frederick County. They have three children and five grandchildren. Pastor Betzner enjoys fishing, traveling, photography and gardening in his spare time.

Pastor Betzner became a member of the NCI-Frederick Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) in 1992 as a result of a conversation on a tennis court with Ray Gilden, former Director of Frederick Operations. Dave asked Ray whether he could help find a summer job for his son, Chad. The next week Ray indicated that he could help with the job, and that the NCI-Frederick ACUC was looking for a non-institutional, non-scientific member. It's been a long and beneficial relationship.

Pastor Betzner believes the public has a responsibility in medicine and research, and welcomes the opportunity to serve on the NCI-Frederick ACUC and be part of a strong and diverse community of individuals concerned with creating, implementing, and advancing the highest ethical standards in the conduct of animal research. The ACUC is one of a number of places where Pastor Betzner is involved in the community in an effort to grow himself and help with public service.

Revised ACUC Guidelines

The ACUC has recently adapted the following revised guidelines. Please ensure that you and your staff review these guidelines and incorporate as they apply to your research study.

- *Guidelines for Investigating and Reporting Animal Care and Use Concerns*
- *Guidelines for Euthanasia of Rodents*

These guidelines can be found at the following site: http://web.ncifcrf.gov/rtp/lasp/intra/acuc/fred/guidelines_nci.asp

Semiannual Animal Facility Inspections

The ACUC would like to thank the veterinary and safety staff members, facility managers, technicians, animal caretakers, investigators, and animal users for their assistance during the recent semiannual facility inspections and program review. We are very fortunate to have employees that are dedicated to ensuring quality animal care and use at the NCI-Frederick.

Animal Study Proposal Deadlines

In an effort to ensure adequate and timely review in accordance with the *Public Health Service Policy* and Animal Welfare Regulations, the NCI-Frederick ACUC will implement animal study proposal submission deadline requirements effective for the January 19, 2006 meeting. All animal study proposals, as well as modifications that are not authorized for designated member review, must be received in the ACUC Office (Building 244, Room 224) **three weeks in advance** of the scheduled monthly meeting. Therefore, proposal and modification submissions for consideration at the January 2006 meeting must be received by no later than December 29, 2005. There will be no exceptions to these submission deadlines, so please be sure to plan new and renewal submissions accordingly. Future deadlines have been provided below and can also be

NCI-Frederick Animal Care and Use Links

[Home Page](#)
[Guidelines and Recommendations](#)
[Alternatives](#)
[Training](#)
[Forms](#)

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Regulations and Policies Links

[Animal Welfare Act](#)
[Public Health Service Policy](#)
[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#)
[U.S. Government Principles](#)



found at <http://web.ncifcrf.gov/rtp/lasp/intra/acuc/fred/main.asp>. Please contact the ACUC Office at 301-846-7544 if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

2006 Meeting Dates	Submission Deadline
January 19	December 29
February 16	January 26
March 16	February 23
April 20	March 30
May 18	April 27
June 15	May 25

The Care and Use of Animals in Laboratory Research Training

The NCI-Frederick ACUC will be presenting its semiannual lecture training course "The Care and Use of Animals in Laboratory Research" on December 13 at 9:00 a.m. in Building 549 Auditorium. This course focuses on animal welfare, ethics, proposal submissions, veterinary care, LASP resources, and safety requirements. The NCI-Frederick ACUC will not approve an Animal Study Proposal unless all individuals listed to work with live animals have fulfilled training requirements. Any individuals that have only taken the online introductory training course to date must also attend this course at least one time to fulfill requirements. Pre-registration is required.

Please contact the [ACUC Office](#) to register for this course or if you have any questions.

Online Refresher Training Course

The ACUC has developed an online "refresher" training course to provide experienced animals users and investigators with a brief overview of the regulatory requirements along with updated information pertaining to his/her responsibilities within the animal care and use program. Once an individual attends the NCI-Frederick "The Care and Use of Animals in Laboratory Research" lecture training course, he/she will be required to complete this online refresher training course every three years. Applicable individuals will receive notification from the ACUC Office prompting his/her completion of the course. For those who have received a notification from the ACUC Office requesting completion, the course can be found at the following site:

<http://web.ncifcrf.gov/rtp/lasp/intra/acuc/fred/LASPTTraining/refresher/>

Rodent Euthanasia

To ensure that animals are euthanized in compliance with the *Report of the American Veterinary Medical Association Panel on Euthanasia*, the ACUC developed the [Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Rodents](#) [latest revision October 2005]. Please keep in mind the following procedures when performing rodent euthanasia:

- *Animals should be placed into a chamber that has been pre-filled to a CO₂ concentration of 70% or more. 100% is preferred to assure rapid euthanasia.*
- *Do not overcrowd the cage. Mice may not occupy more than 75% of the cage floor.*
- *Mice should be maintained in the chamber for at least two minutes after apparent clinical death.*

- *After animals are removed from the chamber each animal must be visually observed for an additional 5 minutes to ensure death prior to disposal.*
- *If clinical death cannot be assured, CO₂ narcosis must be followed by another method of euthanasia (i.e., cervical dislocation or decapitation with surgical scissors).*
- *Age specific guidelines have been established to ensure death in accordance with the AVMA Panel. Please refer to the applicable table in the [Guidelines for Euthanasia of Rodents](#).*
- *Individual species should be euthanized separately.*
- *Moribund and/or sick animals must be euthanized separately from healthy animals.*
- *Moribund and/or sick animals may need to be maintained in the chamber for longer time periods due to altered respiration.*
- *Animals that are less than 15 days of age must be euthanized separately from adult animals.*
- *Animals of varying adult ages, strains, etc., must be euthanized in a timely manner and cannot be maintained in the cage prior to euthanasia for an extended period of time.*

Use of Human Tumor Cells or Tissues in Animal Models

In an effort to protect the staff members working with animal models that have been exposed to human cells or tissues, the NCI-Frederick ACUC recommends that all human samples be pre-screened for the following pathogens prior to use in animal studies. The ACUC has developed the [Guidelines Regarding Engraftment of Human Cells or Tissues into Immunodeficient Mice](#) [latest revision July 2005] outlining the

NCI-Frederick Animal Care and Use Links

[Home Page](#)
[Guidelines and Recommendations](#)
[Alternatives Training Forms](#)

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Regulations and Policies Links

[Animal Welfare Act](#)
[Public Health Service Policy](#)
[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#)
[U.S. Government Principles](#)



pathogens that should be screened. In cases where pathogen testing is waived or if human tissues are known or shown to be infected, the NCI-Frederick Biosafety Office will provide the level of containment and procedures for the handling and disposal of materials. The study will require a Pathogen Registration to be on file with the safety office and the study must be conducted in a quarantined area within a designated facility. Remember ... before utilizing human tumor cells or tissues in animal experiments, please (1) ensure that the details for utilizing human cells/tissues have been included in your approved animal study proposal [either in the text of the parent proposal or by subsequent modification]; (2) provide a copy of the pathogen test results to the ACUC Office; and (3) if you plan to waive pathogen testing, discuss the special housing arrangements with the facility manager in advance to ensure that they can accommodate your experimental requirements.

Please contact the [ACUC Office](#) if you have any questions regarding these requirements.



*Best Wishes for the
Upcoming Holidays and
New Year !!!*



NCI-Frederick Animal Care and Use Links

[Home Page](#)
[Guidelines and Recommendations](#)
[Alternatives](#)
[Training](#)
[Forms](#)

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Regulations and Policies Links

[Animal Welfare Act](#)
[Public Health Service Policy](#)
[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#)
[U.S. Government Principles](#)